## E UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

09/821,695

Filing Date:

3/29/2001

Applicant:

SAITO, et al.

Group Art Unit:

Unknown

Examiner:

Unknown

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EXAMINING

THROUGH HOLES

Attorney Docket:

9319S-000195

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

#### 1. <u>LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION</u>

The patents, publications and other information submitted for consideration by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

#### II. COPIES

| A. X Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application          |
|--|
| publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which   |
| caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application |
| specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which           |
| caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all     |
| other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.                        |

B. \_\_\_ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

| CThis is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form-1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. Since the International Search Report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g)) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. X Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| B A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <ul><li>1See the attached foreign search report.</li><li>2English translations are provided for:</li><li>3Other:</li></ul>  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| C The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. X The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Serial No.         Filing Date         Art Unit           09/821,816         3/29/2001         Unknown           09/821,789         3/29/2001         Unknown   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. <u>X</u> 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (check <u>only</u> one box)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

III.

IV.

V.

| §<br>C<br>u<br>1<br>a | X before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS ander 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § .97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § .17(p). |
|-----------------------|---|
| fc                    | before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request or continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.  |
| В 3                   | 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check <u>only</u> one box)  |
| §                     | before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that therwise closes prosecution.  |
|                       | No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is equired by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).   |
| 2                     | See the certification below. No fee is required.  |
| C 3                   | 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):  |
| 1                     | after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § .113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before ayment of the issue fee.   |
|                       | See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is equired by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).   |
| <u>CERTIF</u>         | ICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)   |
| The und               | lersigned hereby certifies that:  |
| commur                | each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a nication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application re than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1)); or  |
| from a knowled        | no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the tige of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of tion contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37   |

VI.

C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).

C. \_\_\_ Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

# VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A. \_\_\_\_ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.

B. \_\_\_\_ Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 25, 700/

G. Gregory Schivley

Reg. No. 27,382 Bryant E. Wade Reg. No. 40,344

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. Box 828 Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303 (248) 641-1600 GGS/BEW/jah

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HDP/SB/21 based on PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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| TRANSMITT.   | AL   | Application Filing Date                    |                 | March 2                   | 29, 2001   |
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| o 2001 🙀 FORM  |  | First Named                                | Inventor        | Mikio S                   | AITO   |
| (to be used for all correspondence a   | Group Art Unit                                   |  | N/A             |                           |  |
| (to be paid for all correspondence all   |  | Examiner Nar                               | ne              | N/A                       |  |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submi  | ssion  | Attorney Dock                              | et Number       | 9319S-0                   | 000195   |
|  | ENCL   | OSURES (check a                            | all that apply) | <u> </u>                  |  |
| Fee Transmittal Form   |  | Assignment Papers (for an Application)     |                 | After<br>Grou             | Allowance Communication to   |
| Fee Attached   | ☐ Drawin   | ☐ Drawing(s)                               |                 |                           | eal Communication to Board of<br>eals and Interferences                              |
| Amendment / Response   | Licensi  | Licensing-related Papers                   |                 |                           | eal Communication to Group<br>eal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)                        |
| After Final  | Petition   | ı  |                 | Prop                      | rietary Information  |
| Affidavits/declaration(s)  |  | n to Convert to a onal Application         |                 | Status Letter             |  |
| Extension of Time Request  |  | of Attorney, Revo                          |                 |                           | er Enclosure(s)<br>se identify below):   |
| Express Abandonment Request  |  | ☐ Terminal Disclaimer ☐ Request for Refund |                 | re                        | PTO-1449 with copies of<br>eferences cited (2 US) and<br>cknowledgement postcard     |
| Information Disclosure Statemen  | CD, NU   | ımber of CD(s)                             |                 |                           |  |
| Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)   | Rema   | The Commissioner i additional fees that    |                 | nay be req                | uthorized to charge any<br>uired under 37 CFR 1.16 or<br>0. A duplicate copy of this |
| Response to Missing Parts/<br>Incomplete Application   |  |  |                 |                           |  |
| Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53  |  |  |                 |                           |  |
| SIC  | SNATURE OF                                       | APPLICANT, A                               | TTORNEY, OI     | R AGENT                   | •  |
| Firm or Individual name Harness, Dick  | Attorney Name<br>G. Gregory Schivley/Bryant Wade |  |                 | Reg. No.<br>27,382/40,344 |  |
| Signature  | FS. We   | Ne_  |                 |                           |  |
| Date 1411y <u>75</u> , 200   | 1  | l —  |                 |                           |  |
|  | CERTIFICA  | TE OF MAILING                              | TRANSMIS        | SION                      |  |
| I hereby certify that this corresponder<br>addressed to: Commissioner of Pate<br>Trademark Office on the date indicate | nts and Tradema                                  |  |                 |                           |  |
| Typed or printed name Bryant E   |  | 1  |                 |                           |  |